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**SUMMARY**

Agenda Item: H

Bulgaria

# PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING OF JOINT SECTOR PROJECT

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Academy of Sciences,
Deputy President of the State Planning Commission

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# PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING OF JOINT SECTOR PROJECT

by Professor EVGENI MATEYEV
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Commission

SUMMARY.

The report refers to the problems of methodology related to the drafting of an economic plan as per different branches and reflects the practice adopted in the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the field of long-term planning.

As a part of the socialist system, it is possible for Bulgaria to ensure an optimum specialization of her economy on the basis of the international division of labour.

The process of drafting the plan passes through various stages and several variants.

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During the first stage of drafting the plan, material is accumulated by means of preliminary studies of resources and needs, which is used as the basis of drafting the plan.

Work proceeds according to the following basic lines:

a/ study of the natural resources.

- Groups of experts study the natural resources of minerals and draft the first variant of the plan related to the mining industry. Parallel with that a determination is made of the investments of capital, of the machines and equipment necessary, of labour productivity and the number of workers necessary to implement the undertakings in the field of geological survey and mining.

- A study is made of the sources of water power and of the water problem as a whole.

- A study is made of all conditions related to the development of agriculture, to finding the optimum structure of the agricultural crops and to the greatest possible increase of yields. The necessary capital investments, equipment, chemical fertilizers and manpower are also determined.

- A determination is made of the reserves of wood and of the rates of its exploitation in a most efficient manner. Here, too, a preliminary programme is worked out for the needs of equipment, capital investments, manpower, etc.

b/ study of the problems related to the balance of manpower.

A determination is made of the number of the population capable of employment, the active population in particular, reflecting the effect of the changes in the number of housewives and students belonging to the age-group of persons capable of employment. This is done on the basis of extrapolation and of assessing the time necessary to improve their qualifications. An assessment is made of the number of population to be engaged separately in the sphere of material production and in the sphere of services. Indices are determined for gradually reducing the number of working hours per engaged person during the week. As a result of this, a determination is made of the effective fund of working hours which will be at the disposal of the nation for the needs of material production at the separate stages of the period in perspective.

c determining the growth of consumption.

- Commissions of experts determine the most probable rates of cosumption. This they do on a scientific basis and ensuing in the first place from comsiderations of medical expediency.

- Further groups of experts establish the needs of textiles and shoes and prepare data related to the policies on the problems of housing, living conditions, cultural requirements, etc.

d/ preliminary assessment, on the basis of extrapolation, of the volume of the social product and of the national incomes, as well as the volume of capital investments in the separate periods.

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Based on the initial data about the resources of raw materials, about the balance of working hours and about the general rates of growth, the structure and rates of the manufacturing industry are determined in a tentative manner. The optimum form and degree of specialization is sought in determining the programme of the manufacturing industry.

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After the completion of the preliminary stage and of the variant of the manufacturing industry, the next stage is to make a comprehensive calculation of the relations among the branches on the basis of coordinating needs and resources. About 500 balances are set up for the most important types of products, and a system of generalizing balances expressed in indices of value are set up on the basis of these 500 balances. In the course of the above operations, the indices which were accepted as preliminary models at the first stage are gradually becoming more specific and precise as a result of their dependence on the other indices. There appear data about the amount of exports which the country can offer, as well as data about the necessary imports.

The drafting of the first variant-model is followed by new variants which are more precise and are five to six in number.

The long-term plans drafted do not remain unchanged during the entire period of their implementation. It should be stated that the aim of the long-term plan is not to work out and fix indices which should be regarded as dogmas. In the course of development, these indices are being further elaborated on the basis of the achievement during the respective periods of their implementation, on the basis of subsequent scientific and technical discoveries and of opportunities to specify the preliminary prognoses with greater precision. In this sense the long-term plan is a dynamic and effective instrument of organized and purposeful utilization of the capacities of the nation.